

Life in All its Fullness – Come and See



Year 4

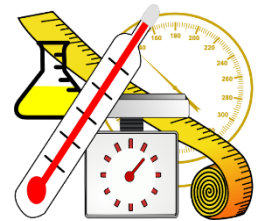
Autumn 2022 Newsletter



I very much hope you have all had a lovely, restful summer break and that you and your family have managed to enjoy some adventures together over the holiday. It is so lovely to welcome the children back for the start of the new school year. Each term, we will be sending out an information leaflet similar to this one, which will provide you with details of our upcoming learning. I very much look forward to working with you and your children during their time in Year 4.

Maths

In Maths, we follow the **Herts Essential Maths** scheme, with other supporting resources. Techniques to support learning include use of partner talk, games, investigations and CPA approaches (concrete, pictorial and abstract). In the first term, we focus on the following topics: understanding place value; rounding and estimating; addition and subtraction – mental and written; developing our times tables knowledge to 12 x 12; developing our problem solving skills; multiplying and dividing by 10 and 100; measures – converting and comparing, as well as exploring discrete and continuous data. Additional short **Maths Fluency** sessions will be delivered, to work alongside the main lessons.



English

In English this term, we will be carrying out book studies linking into our Egyptian History topic. We will start with 'The Egyptian Cinderella', considering how the author has taken a traditional story and placed it in a different cultural setting. We will have opportunities to develop ideas, vocabulary and sentence structure. We will also acquire skills to write setting descriptions that are both descriptive and visual. During the second half of the term, we will explore writing explanations, as well as vocabulary building through poetry. **Grammar** skills are generally incorporated into the teaching of writing, but may also take place in standalone grammar lessons. In addition, we will be carrying out **whole class Guided Reading** sessions and a number of short **spelling** sessions each week based around the Herts Essential Spelling Scheme. The children will also continue to develop their **handwriting** skills.

Science

We will start the term exploring **states of matter**. This unit will teach us about the differences between solids, liquids and gases, classifying objects and identifying their properties. During Autumn 2, we will focus on the **digestive system in humans and animals and the functions of teeth**. Children will learn more about herbivores, carnivores and omnivores in the context of teeth, digestion and the food chain. The children will have lots of opportunities to work scientifically and collaboratively to investigate and learn how to present their findings scientifically.



History

For the entire Autumn term we will be immersing ourselves in **The Ancient Egyptian Civilisation**. We will find out when and where the Ancient Egyptians lived and use a timeline to explore key events from this period and how this fits into the wider historical context of time and place. We will investigate what life was like in Ancient Egyptian times, why the Nile was so important and how they entertained themselves. Consideration will also be given to questions such as who were the great pharaohs and how/why were pyramids built? What is mummification and why was this practised? This is a wonderful topic to start the year and provides lots of cross-curricular opportunities.

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RE

In RE this year, we will continue to follow *The Emmanuel Project* scheme. This term the children will begin by focusing on the religions of Christianity and Islam. We will base our learning on the following questions:

Autumn 1: Why do Muslims call Muhammed the 'seal of the prophets'?

Autumn 2: How does believing Jesus is their saviour inspire Christians to save and serve others?



Art and DT

Our ART lessons will be linked to the Ancient Egyptians. Evidence of exquisite jewellery and ornate sarcophagi will provide the perfect platform to practise and develop our own artistic skills such as scale and proportion, colour and tones and computer generated drawings.

PE

PE will be on Tuesdays and Thursdays each week. Please ensure that children come to school in their PE kits on those days. This half term we will be developing our tag rugby and gymnastics skills. The second half of the term we will focus on developing our communication skills in outdoor and adventurous activities (OAA) and gymnastics skills. Please make sure that clothing is appropriate for all weathers.



Computing

Over the coming term we are going to be looking at online safety and remind ourselves how to keep safe at all times. We will also develop our coding skills using the PRIMM approach and start to understand how spreadsheets are created and used.

Music

Will be led by Mrs Cowley this year. More details to follow.



French

We are very fortunate to have the expertise of Mrs Daniell to teach French.



RHE

Lessons will follow the JIGSAW scheme of work. This term we look at 'Being me in my world' and 'Celebrating differences'.

Further information

Please do make sure your child **reads daily** as much as possible – reading really does underpin so many areas of learning. By the end of Year 4 your child should know multiplication and division facts for **times tables** up to 12 x 12. Whilst we will practise a huge amount in school, it is imperative your child practises at home regularly too to develop speed of recall and fluency. This knowledge really does feed into so many areas of Maths. **Towards the end of the year, the children will sit the new 'Multiplication tables Check'**. Your support, therefore, in encouraging practise of multiplication tables at home would be greatly appreciated. Resources such as the Times Table Rockstars website & the BBC Sport Times Table videos/songs can be fun ways of practising. Homework tasks will generally be set via **Microsoft Teams** on a weekly basis – handed out on a Thursday and returned the following Tuesday. These will often be a Maths and spelling activity but may also include other subject areas. Please provide your child with a daily healthy snack for break time and please ensure your child has a **named water bottle** in school each day. As the weather is getting colder and wetter, please do ensure a coat is bought in every day.

We are really looking forward to a fabulous term, with lots of new learning and experiences for the children, celebrating **life in all its fullness**.

Mrs Handley, Mrs Godfrey and Mrs Daniell.

